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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Hideaki Monden, et al.
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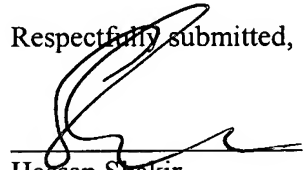
Director of the U.S. Patent and
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REQUEST FOR STATUS OF APPLICATION

SIR:

Not having received any documentation from the Patent and Trademark Office in the last 12 months, please let us know the status of this application at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,


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